

MANAGING INTERNET ACCESS:

Operating Policy for Bureau Telecommunications Managers and Information Resources Management Officials within the Department of the Treasury

I. INTRODUCTION

The Internet is a worldwide collection of networks that use a common protocol for communications. While connectivity to the Internet offers tremendous benefits in terms of increased access to information, the Internet itself suffers from significant and widespread security problems. Those problems frequently manifest themselves in terms of compromised information and corrupted computer systems with corresponding losses to productivity and reputation for the affected organization.

As a Federal agency which relies on public confidence as well as the integrity of its information infrastructure to accomplish its missions, the Department of the Treasury can only permit Internet access when strong management controls and effective technical safeguards have been implemented to minimize the associated risks to its automated information systems (AIS) and telecommunications networks. Treasury bureaus share a common responsibility to ensure that all AIS and telecommunications networks are operated in a safe and effective manner. In addition, TD P 71-10 assigns the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Information Systems specific responsibility as the Department's internetworking security manager. This statement of operating policy addresses these responsibilities and is issued for the instruction of Bureau Telecommunications Managers and Information Resources Management Officials to safeguard Treasury's information infrastructure, its information, and mission performance.

II. POLICY

It is the policy of the Department of the Treasury that any access to Internet services from Treasury AIS shall be provided via protected internetwork gateways, which have been approved by the Office of Telecommunications Management. Treasury AIS shall not be directly connected to Internet services, either by dedicated or dial-up access arrangements. Bureaus shall implement prudent management controls for Internet access to assure that only access through approved gateways is maintained.

III. AUTHORITY

- a. TO 102-10, Delegation of Authority to the Deputy Assistant Secretary (Information Systems), September 29, 1994.
- b. TD 12-60, Delegations of Authority for Telecommunications and Information Systems Security⁵ September 20, 1990.
- c. TD P 71-10, Department of the Treasury Security Manual, revised December 30, 1994.
- d. TD 81-01, Management of Departmental Information Systems, July 25, 1991.
- e. TD 83-01, Acquisition of Federal Information Processing Resources, December 3, 1991.

IV. RESPONSIBILITIES

- a. The Senior Information Resources Management Official for each Treasury bureau shall:
 - (1) implement this statement of operating policy as appropriate to the mission and organization of the bureau;
 - (2) designate appropriate Bureau Telecommunications Managers and/or Information Resources Management Officials to manage bureau access to the Internet;
 - (3) ensure that bureau AIS and telecommunications networks with access to the Internet are certified and accredited as provided in TD P 71-10;
 - (4) periodically assess the effectiveness of management controls for Internet access within the bureau; and
 - (5) request exceptions to this operating policy in writing from the Director, Office of Telecommunications Management, when bureau requirements cannot be supported through internetwork gateways approved for Internet access.

b. Bureau Telecommunications Managers and Information Resources Management Officials shall:

- (1) manage bureau access to the Internet consistent with established policies and practices for managing Federal information processing resources;
- (2) coordinate bureau requirements for Internet access with the Office of Telecommunications Management as provided in TD P 83-01; and
- (3) periodically review bureau requirements for continued access to Internet services to ensure cost-effective use.

c. The Director Office of Telecommunications Management shall:

- (1) assess and validate Departmentwide needs for Internet access from requirements identified by Treasury bureaus;
- (2) collaborate with the Office of Security to determine appropriate management controls and technical safeguards to be employed by protected internetwork gateways for Internet access;
- (3) approve the operation of protected internetwork gateways for Internet access by serving as Treasury's Principal Accrediting Authority for such gateways;
- (4) support Bureau Telecommunications Managers and Information Resources Management Officials by disseminating service policies and procedures for approved Internet access;
- (5) provide program guidance and technical support to Bureau Telecommunications Managers and Information Resources Management Officials for implementing this operating policy; and
- (6) act on exception requests to this operating policy submitted by Senior Information Resources Management Officials.

d. The Program Manager, Treasury Communications System Executive Agent Program, shall:

- (1) implement and maintain protected internetwork gateways for Internet

access for all Treasury AIS and telecommunications networks which directly or indirectly interconnect with Treasury's enterprise networks, the Consolidated Data Network and the Treasury Communications System;

(2) develop service policies and procedures for protected internetwork gateways approved for Internet access; and

(3) conduct continuing operational reviews, periodic risk assessments, and planned gateway upgrades to maintain the integrity of Treasury AIS and telecommunications networks.

V. REFERENCES

- a. TD P 83-01, Guidelines for Acquiring Federal Information Processing Resources, revised October 31, 1994.
- b. TD 8~02, Establishment of Executive Agents, September 4, 1991.
- c. NIST Special Publication 800-10, Keeping Your Site Comfortably Secure: An Introduction to Internet Firewalls; December 1994.

VI. DEFINITIONS

- a. Automated Information System (AIS) -- An assembly of computer hardware, software and/or firmware configured to collect, create, communicate, compute, disseminate, process, store, and/or control data or information. Examples include information storage and retrieval systems, mainframe computers, minicomputers, personal computers and workstations, office automation systems, automated messaging processing systems, private branch exchanges, and voice mail systems. (TD P 71-10)
- b. Internetwork Gateway -- A specialized configuration of hardware, software and/or firmware, and documented operating procedures which interconnect two networks and establish the protocols by which information is transferred between AIS on either network.
- c. Principal Accrediting Authority -- The official who has the authority to decide on accepting the security safeguards prescribed for an AIS or the official who may be responsible for issuing an accreditation statement that records

the decision to accept those safeguards. (TD P 71-10)

- b. Protected Internetwork Gateway -- An Internetwork Gateway which implements the required management controls and technical safeguards to address the risks associated with interconnecting two networks consistent with Treasury's security policy documented in TD P 71-10.

Approved:

Wushow Chou
Deputy Assistant Secretary for
Information Systems